

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

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**DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES LIMITS LANTERMAN
DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER EXPANSION TO BEHAVIORAL CLIENTS****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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SACRAMENTO –The California Department of Developmental Services announced today that the Lanterman Developmental Center in Pomona will not receive forensic residents as part of its planned expansion.

“The previously proposed transfer of individuals with developmental disabilities who have also been accused of a violent felony is not going forward. Instead, the state will limit the transfer of individuals to those persons with behavioral challenges that have not been accused or convicted of a violent crime against another person,” said Paul Carleton, DDS Deputy Director of Administration.

The proposed project at Lanterman, first announced in January of 1998, would have included 75 forensic beds and 53 beds for behaviorally challenged patients. The project was proposed to provide space for continually increasing populations of both forensic and behavioral clients. The project will now include only the behavioral population for the 128 beds.

“These individuals do not present a danger to public safety when in a structured setting,” Carleton said. “Each individual will receive appropriate services by qualified staff who will address the individual’s specific challenging behaviors, working to replace them with appropriate behaviors.”

The 1999-2000 budget provided funds for additional construction for forensic beds at Porterville Developmental Center, located between Bakersfield and Fresno.

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